



MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 2025

6:30 P.M.

Development Services Building, Room 107

*ABSENT FROM MEETING

**ATTENDED MEETING VIRTUALLY

Open Meeting

Vice-Chair Idris O'Connor opened the meeting at 6:30 PM. Director Phyllis Jennings-Holt introduced Melissa Agnew Alexander, newly appointed At Large Board member, to the Board.

Approval of Minutes-

Minutes of the June 17, 2025 Board meeting were approved [CT, CF; unanimously] with one amendment. Director's time, last bullet corrected to read "The Director asked the Board what presentation they would like to have in July and it was decided they would like more in-depth information on the CSS Division, *including the probable impacts of the President's recent bill.*"

Public Comment

None

Presentation

Lucia Dentone, Acting Assistant Director of Customer Support and Services Division presented information about the division including staffing, the various teams, and their responsibilities.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Deputy Director Holly Handy provided additional information regarding how the President's "Big, Beautiful Bill" will impact the population served currently.

VDSS Exchange Federal Changes:

As of July 9th

No guidance from FNS or CMS as of yet

- SNAP – 2 changes shift 360 million dollars to the Commonwealth
 - Currently administrative funds are 50/50 Federal/State Share
 - New bill will be 25 Federal 75% StateAll or nothing the state cannot change any part of the federal program.

1.8 billion in SNAP Benefits

The state now has to pay a percentage of this payout based on the state's error rate

< 5.99 0

6 – 7.99 5%

8 -9.99% 10% match 180

10% >15% match 270 million

SNAP is a voluntary program and the state has the option to not run it. Everything is on the table.

Virginia payment error rate as of 7/7/25 is 11.5 %

The state has 15 months to lower our rate that will be used 9/20/26 to determine the rate we will pay for a 2-year period. An annual look at the rate.

Most Common VA Errors – Earned Income, Standard Utility Allowance, Household Comp, Shelter, Policy Misapplied, Notices (within State control)

360 million to fund SNAP per year with a bi-annual budget we need 720 million for the upcoming budget cycle.

- Medicaid –
Medicaid covered group 19 – 64 will require a federal work requirement.
All Medicaid renewals for 19-64 year olds will be conducted every 6 months.

The State has now received federal funds for Energy Assistance for Heating and Crisis program. New bill does not include funding for the Cooling Program for summer of 2026.

Action Items

None.

Chairman's Time

Vice-Chair Idris O'Connor welcomed new Board member, Melissa Agnew Alexander to the meeting and stated that meetings are held once per month, except no meeting held in August.

Director's Time

- VDSS added 3 new CPS positions for PWC as a result of a study completed based on number of investigations, and risk levels. DSS will use these positions for 1 manager (quality assurance) and 2 workers (1 in prevention due to an increase in homelessness cases, and 1 for the Kinship Initiative).
- The Annual Judge's Dinner will be held at the Senior Center in Manassas on September 16. The planned presentations will be on the Kinship Care program and Home Studies and Assessments.
- Reminder that there will be no meeting in August; and the September meeting will be the Judge's Dinner.

Board Members' Time

- Each person present introduced themselves to new Board member Melissa Agnew Alexander
- Chrissy Fauls announced there will be a "Corvette Show" in Haymarket on July 19th from 10am-12pm at the Warrior Retreat at Bull Run. Proceeds will benefit the Warrior Retreat at Bull Run.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

MOTION made to adjourn the meeting [CT, LHT; unanimous]. Vice Chair O'Connor adjourned the meeting at 7:56 PM.

APPROVED: *Linda Meier*
Clerk to Board